

## **Narrative Summary – December 2020**

The average temperature for December 2020 was warmer than normal, averaging 33.8°F, 2.7° above normal (31.1°F). The warmest December (1957) averaged 38.5°F, while the coldest (1985) averaged 21.0°F. There were no daily temperatures records established during December 2020.

Precipitation for December 2020 totaled 0.52 inches, 43% of normal (1.20 inches). The wettest December (1996) received 3.69 inches, while the driest December (2013) received 0.07 inches. Snowfall for December 2020 totaled 3.1 inches, compared to a normal of 5.9 inches. The snowiest December on record (1996) received 22.6 inches.

The average wind speed for December 2020 was 5.6 miles per hour (mph), which was 0.3 mph below normal (5.9 mph). The windiest December on record (1968) averaged 8.3 mph, while the December with the lightest winds (1985) averaged 3.3 mph. The peak gust for December 2020 was from the southwest at 48 mph on December 20 and from the south at 48 mph on December 21. The record peak gust for December is 74 mph in 2006.

Calendar year 2020 averaged 55.8°F, which is 2.9°F below normal (53.9°F). The warmest year (2015) averaged 57.5°F. The coolest year (1985) averaged 49.6°F. The hottest temperature during 2020 was 111°F on July 30. The coldest temperature was 10°F on January 14. Precipitation for 2020 totaled 4.07 inches, 57% of normal (7.14 inches). This makes 2020 the fifth driest year on record. The wettest year (1995) received 12.31 inches, while the driest (1976) received 2.99 inches. The average wind speed for 2020 was 8.8 mph, which was 1.2 mph above normal (7.6 mph). This ties the record for windiest year (also in 2000)

The monthly climatological data summaries, as well as other information, are available on the Internet.

Address: <http://www.hanford.gov/page.cfm/hms>

HMS Office 373-2716

**Note:** The data in this summary pertains specifically to the Hanford Meteorology Station (HMS), which is located approximately 25 miles northwest of Richland, WA. No attempt should be made to infer meteorological conditions at other locations from these data.